GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3533
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2017
Rainwater Storage/Harvesting
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that ground water level in the country is declining rapidly and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether around two-thirds of natural water gets wasted due to improper storage/harvesting of rainwater and if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme at Central level for proper storage/harvesting of rainwater and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) Ground Water levels are declining in some parts of the Country due to its exploitation for various purposes including irrigation and industrial utilization. As per the ground water level data monitored by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Pre-monsoon (April/ May, 2016) water level data when compared with the decadal average (2006-2015) indicate that 66% of the wells have registered decline in ground water level in certain pockets in all the States/UTs of the country. State-wise details is given in Annexure.

(b) Due to seasonal, geographical and annual variation in availability of water as well as lack of adequate storage, substantial quantity of water, especially during monsoon season, remains unused and flows into sea. As per the assessment done by Central Water Commission in the year 1993, the river basin wise average annual water availability in the Country is 1869 billion cubic meters (BCM). It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM, which comprises 690 BCM of surface water and 433 BCM of replenishable ground water resources.

(c) Steps taken by the Government for conservation of surface and ground water are available at the following URL http://mowr.gov.in/writereaddata/GW_Depletion.pdf.

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ANNEXURE

Annexure referred in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.No. 3533 for reply on 23.03.2017 regarding "Rainwater Storage/Harvesting"

State-wise Decadal Water Level Fluctuation with Decadal Mean
Pre-monsoon (2006 to 2015) and Pre-monsoon 2016

S.No. Name of State No. of wells Analysed Rise Fall

No. % No. %
1 Andhra Pradesh 547 236 43 308 56
2 Arunachal Pradesh 14 10 71 4 29
3 Assam 182 84 46 98 54
4 Bihar 551 180 33 369 67
5 Chandigarh 11 4 36 7 64
6 Chhattisgarh 616 165 27 451 73
7 Dadra & Nagar Haveli 12 6 50 6 50
8 Daman & Diu 10 2 20 8 80
9 Delhi 115 26 23 89 77
10 Goa 70 41 59 29 41
11 Gujarat 738 254 34 475 64
12 Haryana 643 184 29 454 71
13 Himachal Pradesh 95 36 38 59 62
14 Jammu & Kashmir 225 83 37 142 63
15 Jharkhand 212 86 41 126 59
16 Karnataka 1380 415 30 949 69
17 Kerala 1240 454 37 779 63

18 Madhya Pradesh 1343 502 37 838 62
19 Maharashtra 1487 437 29 1041 70
20 Meghalaya 17 6 35 11 65
21 Odisha 1103 395 36 705 64
22 Puducherry 6 5 83 1 17
23 Punjab 613 129 21 482 79
24 Rajasthan 829 346 42 481 58
25 Tamil Nadu 587 345 59 242 41
26 Telangana 377 66 18 308 82
27 Tripura 28 21 75 7 25
28 Uttar Pradesh 629 95 15 534 85
29 Uttarakhand 44 21 48 23 52
30 West Bengal 899 310 34 589 66
Total 14623 4944 34 9615 66
Note: 64 wells show no change in water level